PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE (Case No. 98,714)

| In re Applica | ation of: |) | 1 |
|-----------------------|---|---|--------|
| David Baunoch, et al. | |) | A. A |
| Serial No.: | 09/212,367 |) Group Art Unit: 1623) Examiner: W. Beisner) | 2/4/02 |
| Filed ; | December 15, 1998 | | |
| For: | METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR AUTOMATED REPROCESSING OF |) | |

Asst. Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

TISSUE SAMPLES

SUPPLEMENTAL RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED JULY 17, 2001

Dear Sir:

Applicants hereby submit this supplemental response to the Office Action mailed July 17, 2001.

REMARKS

Applicants hereby submit the enclosed Declaration of Thomas G. Kennedy pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.132 in order to overcome the rejection of the claims in the pending office action.

Applicants present the following objective evidence, as supported by the enclosed declaration, directed to long-felt need and copying of others.

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